

ON YOUR WALLS, O JERUSALEM,
I HAVE SET WATCHMEN;
ALL THE DAY & ALL THE NIGHT.

ISAIAH 62:6 [ESV]

WATCHMAN ON THE WALL

People LEADING People

Dear Watchman,

Mobberly's mission statement was tweaked a couple of years back...a subtle change, but a critical one related to the issue of leadership. Instead of "Mobberly leading people..." it now says "PEOPLE LEADING PEOPLE into a life-changing, ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ." There it is, out in the open: leadership is important and all believers are called to lead.

In our current sermon series, "Momentum," we have talked about two key parts of our journey as believers. We are to continually be in the process of **discovering** new spiritual insights about God, His plan and purpose for our lives and His love for the people in our world. We don't stop there, though because head knowledge does not produce life change. We are also to continually be in the process of **owning** these spiritual truths, allowing them to soak into us and to be lived out, because we believe them for ourselves. Even still, the process is not completed. In October we'll be talking about what's next. We are to also be **leading** others to know and embrace God through Jesus Christ and biblical truths that He shows us.

You say, "Whoa, Pastor Glynn, not me...I'm no leader!" Not true! As we become believers committed to Jesus we all begin by first, leading ourselves in this never-ending, life-giving cycle: discovering God's truths, owning them and leading out in them. We then branch out to lead others, such as family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, fellow students, etc. – we seek to share truth with them. Some may go on to lead teams as they carry out ministries to reach, teach and touch others. Others may even go on to lead ministries or organizations. Our amazingly creative God has crafted us each uniquely to lead uniquely. Everyone won't lead at the same level and with the same style. But make no mistake...He created every one of us to lead!

How can we incorporate this idea of leading into our Watchman prayers this October? We can pray for everyone in our church family in some way. Let's begin with praying for the people in the Mobberly family who are in "official" leadership roles and those in "unofficial" leadership roles. This month take time to pray for:

- The Mobberly Staff-pray that God will speak into us and guide us in this responsibility of spiritual leadership.
- The Deacon Body-pray that God will empower Deacons to continue to be true servant leaders in the church family.
- Volunteer Leaders-pray that everyone leading through service in every area of Mobberly ministry will be strengthened and encouraged as they lead.
- Every Mobberly Member-pray that God will help each member see and embrace that they are to be leading someone to their next step with Jesus.

Pastor Glynn

Praise: Praising God for who He is and for what He is doing.

- God gives us the joy of being used to lead people to Him
 - **Isaiah 6:8 (CSB):** *“Then I heard the voice of the Lord asking: “Who should I send? Who will go for us?” I said: “Here I am. Send me.””*
 - **Matthew 6:19 (CSB):** *““Follow me,” he told them, “and I will make you fish for people.””*
 - **2 Corinthians 5:20 (CSB):** *“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ’s behalf: “Be reconciled to God.””*

Praise the Lord:

- Springhill First Baptist has become a partner of Hope Road Counseling. We are thankful for nine partner churches that we have the opportunity to support by providing biblically based, Christ-centered counseling to their members as a discounted rate and to support the pastors and ministers in these churches.
- For the opportunity for our Hope Road staff to be mentored and trained by Dr. Larry Crabb.
- For the Hope Road sponsored Ministry Leader Conference, led by Dr. Larry Crabb, to encourage and equip spiritual leaders from the East Texas Community.
- For the many people who have prayed for and supported Hope Road Counseling financially this past year.
- For 563 people (individuals and couples) who have been supported and offered hope-filled counseling through Hope Road since it launched October 15, 2018. We’ve averaged 372 counseling sessions per month since January 2019, with a high of 517 sessions during the month of August.
- Celebrate Recovery is experiencing continued growth in our leadership team. The Lord has provided boldness to the leadership team and is continuing to provide avenues to share encouragement to hurting people in our area.
- Thrive! for Kids and Thrive! for Students is experiencing record attendance numbers this semester.
- For strong college ministry student leadership in Marshall.
- The student worship choir had a good turnout at their kickoff on Sunday, Sept. 25.
- For a new Adult Connect Group in Marshall.
- For new volunteer engage ministry leaders in Marshall making weekly engage visits.
- Catharine Griffin voluntarily leads the Marshall campus women’s ministry.
- He has opened up so many opportunities for the Marshall campus to witness to and pour into Marshall Independent School District. Praise Him for the valuable time we have with these students to lead as we share with them the gospel, but also in the example of living out our faith can have on other people.
- For the great start to the fall with Connect Groups and Develop Classes.
- For a great start to *Essential Leadership* being offered at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday’s on the Longview campus.
- We had a great Tailgate Party Event with Longview Connect Groups on Sept. 15th.
- For the faithful men and women who have committed to leading our preschoolers, children and preteens – we are grateful for many new leaders as well as those who continue to be faithful.
- 21 students have accepted Christ as Savior in the past month at Elevation. Praise God for these souls added to the Kingdom.
- For answering prayers for leaders for the *Grandparenting* class and a wonderful kick-off to this study. Pray for grandparents to provide a spiritual legacy to the generations of their family.
- For the 120 women who attended the Sept. 23 *Better Together* women’s event. It was a sweet night of worship, study in the Word and conversation around the tables.
- For the fall kick-off season and elevated numbers of attendance in women’s Bible studies on Monday p.m., Wednesday p.m. and Thursday a.m.
- For the 500 women and 300 children on our Longview campus on Wednesday’s for Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). It’s such a blessing to see women from all over East Texas and multiple denominations represented and digging into the Word of God.
- For His divine appointments for our church planters. Josh Green at Living Rock Severance has seen a great work happening in northern Colorado. They recently baptized five ranging in ages from 8 to 72.
- For the wonderful people at Mobberly who continue to give sacrificially so that we can see the gospel advanced to the nations.

- For the greatness of his Holy Name for over 2,500 have been born-again from this most recent trip to Africa. One of them a Muslim Iman.
- For salvations each week of our engage visitation!!
- For new learners in the engage classes who are excited about sharing their faith and calling during the week to tell about their experiences in sharing Christ with others.
- For God's blessing on the money raised for Upward Sports through the Pastor Glynn Open (\$14,740.00).
- Our wonderful Tuesday morning Family Services Ministry team has led seven people to place their trust in Jesus since our last Watchman report...people leading people! Pray for these new believers as they grow in Christ: Fredrick, Andrea, Nakita, Sikaya, Jessica, Luz and Mayela.

Repent: Of sins committed and commands neglected.

Our ongoing sins disturb our fellowship with our heavenly Father. This is why we need to repent of our sins and confess them to God. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9, CSB)

As you pray, take time to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal your sins. Think through various areas of your life: sins of thought, sins of attitude, sins of omission, sins of commission, sins of self-rule, sins of self-reliance or sins of relationships. Ask God for the grace to repent and to restore your fellowship and then thank God your sins have already been paid for by Christ. Rest in His unfailing love.

Ask: When our hearts are God-oriented in praise, and purified through repentance, then we are ready to "Ask." God encourages us to come boldly to Him and ask. *"Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need."* (Hebrews 4:16, CSB)

Ask God:

- To encourage our Hope Road Counseling team as they attend the American Association of Christian Counselors conference, Oct. 8-12. Pray our counselors will be renewed and equipped to continue offering hope-filled counsel for the many hurts and struggles encountered in daily sessions.
- To provide continued growth in Hope Road partner church relationships and for the unity of the body of Christ to be demonstrated to a watching East Texas community.
- To provide Hope Road with growing partnerships with medical professionals in local hospitals and in private practice.
- To help Hope Road counselors as they launch new Group Therapy and Coaching opportunities this fall.
- For our church family to grow in grace and knowledge, to find courage to get appropriate help or support for areas they are struggling in and to use their experiences to encourage others to find healing for their hurts.
- For the leadership teams in all the Thrive! support ministries. Ask that they will continue to grow in the Lord to provide strong ministry leadership and remain firm in their walk while leading others to find healing in the Lord.
- To help the foster families in our community find purpose in their ministry, that the Lord will place encouragers in their paths for the hard days, that they will have a circle of care that can strengthen their family and meet physical needs they may have. Pray for Mobberly's encouragement of these families.
- To lead the marriage ministry planning team as they develop the marriage event coming in 2020.
- To prepare the hearts of potential speakers for Marriage Moments in 2020. Ask that those presenters will speak truth and encouragement into the marriages of our attendees that will have a lasting impact in the families of Longview, Marshall and the surrounding areas.
- To provide two more Adult Connect Group leaders for Marshall campus this month.
- To raise up Marshall campus men whom God will lead to become deacons at Mobberly.
- To provide Marshall with four new weekly Sunday leaders for preschool and four more Wednesday leaders for KidsLIFE.
- To empower and bless our Marshall campus outreach events: National Night Out (Tuesday, Oct. 1), and Monster Truck or Treat (Wednesday, Oct. 30).
- To lead Marshall children to follow through with New Christian Class and baptism.

- To help our Marshall students as they learn to lead one another. We've been emphasizing the importance of valuing one another with the same value that God has placed on each of us, and how we can lead others with our love for all people.
- To continue to grow our Marshall student ministry, asking that 30 more students begin to regularly attend by the end of this semester. Join in this specific prayer, asking that God would continue to help students in Marshall be bold for their belief in God and that their courageousness in Christ would help others see Jesus.
- To give the student worship choir strong attendance each week as they work towards several ministry concerts in our community.
- To bless our worship collective coming up on Oct. 6 for all worship teams across all venues. We pray this time of worship, teaching and fellowship unifies our worship teams.
- To lead our worship staff as we continue to make plans and prepare for Sounds of the Season in December. We are praying now that we will present a clear message of the gospel and that lives will be changed.
- To lead in filling some leadership positions in some key Connect Groups.
- To encourage, equip and protect our Connect Group leadership and their families.
- To bless Trunk or Treat 2019 on Wednesday, October 30 on our Longview campus. We need participants (trunks) and lots of candy!
- To open the minds and hearts of His people to understand how critical it is to build spiritual foundations in our preschoolers, children and preteens and that men and women would step out and lead them. We still need 40 leaders on Sunday and 18 leaders on Wednesdays.
- To provide more volunteers at Elevation on Wednesday nights. Pray for more adults who have a heart for teenagers.
- To bless Mobberly's Special Ministries adults and their leaders, praying they experience God's love and presence along with safety and protection as they go to camp October 4 and 5.
- To provide additional leaders to serve as Bible study leaders, along with people that will lead and accompany music, at various Senior Living Community Bible studies led by Mobberly.
- To use the Oct. 12 Alzheimer's conference; hosted at Mobberly by the East Texas Alzheimer's Alliance, to bring hope and encouragement to caregivers and serve as an outreach opportunity to our community.
- To help women to continue engaging the lost and inviting them to various Women's ministry opportunities where the gospel is unashamedly proclaimed.
- To continue to raise up new and upcoming leaders to lead women into a life-changing, ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To continue to bless our Bay Area Partners. Pray for Current SV in Mountain View, EDEN Church in San Jose and Storyline Church Oakland.
- To bless our church planting apprentices, Stacey and Lisa Ford, asking God to give them peace and success for the upcoming North American Mission Board (NAMB) Assessment.
- To strengthen our mission team that just returned from Malawi, Africa, asking that they would take this fresh fire and it would be contagious to all those around them.
- To bless the Burgess family in Budapest as they manage their time with new work schedules and ministry opportunities.
- To encourage Mobberly members people to invite lost friends and family to the free showing of "I Can Only Imagine" in the Crossing on Sunday, Sept. 29, 5-7 p.m.
- To help Mobberly reach our goal of 10,000 engaged households by mid-November (see the Engage Wall in the Longview Worship Center foyer).
- To encourage and equip the 22 people who are going through the Financial Peace University (FPU) classes offered in Marshall and Longview this fall. Pray that God will use this class to teach biblical financial principles and that the participants will have the discipline to implement these principles so that they can experience financial peace.
- To bless the tenth annual Family Services' Rummage Sale on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5 (Mobberly members can also shop Thursday night, Oct. 3). Pray that God will provide the many volunteers needed every day that week to prepare for and carry out the sale. Pray that God will bring many shoppers and that the money netted will be used to help people in our community. Equally important, pray that gospel conversations will be held throughout the sale.

Yield: to what God says to me. Yield my will to the will of God. Yield my agenda to the plan God has for my life. We must be willing to yield our desires and our thoughts to God's sovereign wisdom. As Jesus faced the cross, He prayed in Matthew 26:39 (CSB) *"My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will."* We must pray with that same spirit, humbly yielding our will to God's will. To close our prayer by "yielding" to God is a way where we submit our desires to Him. In the end, it is our way of acknowledging His will which is what will truly satisfy us anyway. God's will and plan is better than ours. He knows the end from the beginning and He loves us more than we can ever imagine.

*"Select from all the people some capable, honest men who fear God and hate bribes.
Appoint them as leaders over groups of one thousand, one hundred, fifty, and ten."*
Exodus 18:21 (NLT)
