

# Kingdom Thoughts!

*Maranatha Ministries Unlimited*

Special Edition

May 2009

Rev. John Hobbs



## Dear Friends,

What a wonderful Jesus we have! Sometimes when I think of all that I know that He is and that He is so much more than I know--man! I am so amazed that He would walk with me, talk with me, fellowship with me, and call me His own! In a country where the enemy has spread such a strong spirit of fear, it is so comforting to know that we can press into Him who is perfect love and have the fear cast out. Boy, does our nation need to understand this. His Name Is Jesus!

Betty Jo and I have had such an interesting two years and we have been stretched in so many ways. We were able to sell our house that had been on the market for almost three years--what a blessing that was. So many of you prayed for us and helped us in so many ways during that time--thank you! Keeping a balance between the work on the road and the work we are doing with the church in the outer banks at Kill Devil Hills (what a name) has been difficult but awesomely rewarding. We are seeing amazing fruit from both places, and I find myself renewed in Him daily. Thank you for all your love and support, and as I look toward the future I believe the best days of ministry are in front of us. So I know we are going to really need your help in the days ahead, thank you for all that you have done and will do to enable us to continue in our Father's work.

This past week I was reading in Philippians 3 when verses 12-14 really got my attention. Paul had just finished talking about the need to have no confidence in the flesh and his desperate need to know Jesus in His fullness. He begins verse 12 by acknowledging that he hasn't fully attained his goal but that he was pressing on to "take hold of that for which Christ had taken hold of him." He says that doing this will require, "forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead...pressing on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

*"...what makes the secret real for us and allows us to stand on the Rock of Contentment in a world of uncertainty---is pressing into Him, selling out to Him-- finding ourselves in that place in Him where fear is swallowed up by Love, and our enemies are driven back by His Presence."*

Later on in Chapter 4 he acknowledges that he has learned the secret that allows him to be content in whatever circumstance he finds himself. The secret is that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." I just wanted to share with you that the process of discovering that secret is what we must all tap into--especially in these times. It is really very simple. Jesus laid hold of Paul to make him His own! Paul laid hold of Jesus to make Him his own.

What Paul left behind was his right to himself and what he pressed on into was the Lordship of Jesus. Religion won't get it--religious activity won't get it--super spiritual, make me feel good and please don't offend me services won't do it--what makes the secret real for us and allows us to stand on the Rock of Contentment in a world of uncertainty---is pressing into Him, selling out to Him--finding ourselves in that place in Him where fear is swallowed up by Love, and our enemies are driven back by His Presence.

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## OUR FINANCES

Like much of you and our country our finances have been tight, but our Lord is faithful. As we head into the summer months' finances normally get tighter so we are looking forward with excitement to see what the summer brings. If you find that you can help us with a special gift at this time, it would be greatly appreciated. As always we thank you for your faithfulness to this ministry and to us personally over the years--so thank you for all that you have done and will do to enable us to continue in our Father's work. We pray that the Lord will "meet all of your needs according to His riches in Glory through Christ Jesus."

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## Kingdom Thoughts!

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By pressing into Him as we move heavenward (we are headed to our Father's House) we find ourselves changed into His Likeness---not because of religion, rules, regulations, great preaching, great services, great singing, cutting edge electronics, but because we have an intimate love relationship with the Lord of Glory. The relationship is the process and it is the process that produces the knowledge that "we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us." Embrace the process ya'll--come on in the waters fine!

BJ and I love you folks more that we can say and our hearts are full with gratitude for you and your help as we serve Him. By pressing into Him as we move heavenward (we are headed to our Father's House) we find ourselves changed into His Likeness---not because of religion, rules, regulations, great preaching, great services, great singing, cutting edge electronics, but because we have an intimate love relationship with the Lord of Glory. The relationship is the process and it is the process that produces the knowledge that strengthens us!

Much Love In Jesus

*John*

**John is available for ministry. Contact us to schedule a meeting and plan to visit us as we are in your area.**

### JOHN'S SCHEDULE

May	2-3	Crossroads Fellowship	Bridgeville, DE
	3-5	Grace UME	Cambridge, MD
	15-16	Kenny Davis Retreat	Red Oak, NC
	22-23	Ken Helser Men's Retreat	Sophia, NC
June	14	Liberty Christian Fellowship	Kill Devil Hills, NC
	21	Liberty Christian Fellowship	Kill Devil Hills, NC
	21-26	Youth Camp-Camp Emmanuel	Kill Devil Hills, NC
July	28	Liberty Christian Fellowship	Kill Devil Hills, NC
	5-10	Youth Camp-Camp Emmanuel	Kill Devil Hills, NC
	12-17	Iowa CFO	Iowa
	19-24	Indiana CFO	Taylor University

### SCOTT & LISA'S SCHEDULE

June	14-20	Black Hills - CFO	South Dakota
	21-26	Camp Emmanuel	Kill Devil Hills, NC
July	5-10	Camp Emmanuel	Kill Devil Hills, NC
	12-17	High Pastures CFO	Burnsville, NC
	27-Aug 2	Koronis CFO	Minnesota

### UPDATE from Delaware...

Scott, Lisa and the kids are doing great. They recently moved into a new home and are gearing up for an exciting summer ministry schedule. Olivia, who is growing by leaps and bounds, will celebrate her first birthday on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Ministry for Scott at Eagles Nest has been challenging and fruitful. Thank you for your prayer for Scott and his family as God continues to use them in mighty ways both locally and on the road. Scott and Lisa are available for camps, retreats, workshops, leading worship, concerts and creative ministry (drama, dance, etc.). You can contact Scott & Lisa at [higherplace@mmu.org](mailto:higherplace@mmu.org). You can also listen to Scott at [www.eaglesnest.ch/resources](http://www.eaglesnest.ch/resources).

### Ordinary Moments...

John Hobbs Jr.

***"It is ingrained in us that we have to do exceptional things for God - but we do not. We have to be exceptional in the ordinary things of life and holy on the ordinary streets, among ordinary people - and this is not learned in five minutes."*** - Oswald Chambers

**Discipleship is a process.** It's moment by moment. It's the ordinary things that produce the character necessary to support the Great Moments. The exceptional things I may have the privilege of doing for God are only in proportion to the character built in the ordinary things. This is the stuff that qualifies you for the doing of exceptional things for God.

**Living only for the exceptional moments in life** will leave you with an emptiness most of the time. You will live in nostalgia, vicariously living through a few moments of your past or miss life all together being driven to achieve one moment of elusive greatness.

**Discipleship is about character built through relationship.** To be a disciple is to live so deeply and intimately with Jesus in every ordinary moment so when the time comes for me to do something exceptional, I will by nature be ready and not falter - even if my greatest moment is the cross.