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Not long ago, I called my congressman about something I thought was crucial. I did not call because I was sure it would change anything; it did not. I called simply to make myself feel better! It was a start, anyway.

What would you tell your congressman if you could? What would you tell the President? Perhaps you are unsure that it would do any good.

Now, let me ask you another question. What would you tell God about your leaders if you could? Do you think that this would do any good? Please think about that before proceeding, otherwise you may be wasting your time. If going to God about your leaders could change something, then what in the world are you waiting for?

Well, for starters, you may be uncertain about how to go about it. Thankfully, the Bible addresses this very issue in I Timothy 2:1-4. Let's read that. The Bible says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

So, according to God's Word, how should you pray for the President? Frankly, the Bible does not really tell us *how* to pray for "all that are in authority"; it simply implies it. What God does emphasize here is *why* to pray for our leaders. We tend to be fascinated with the "how to" of something without even stopping to consider the "why"! If you can understand why to pray for the President, it will help inform how you pray for him.

The reason you are to pray for your President has nothing to do with how you feel about him. In other words, it is not simply a matter of seek-

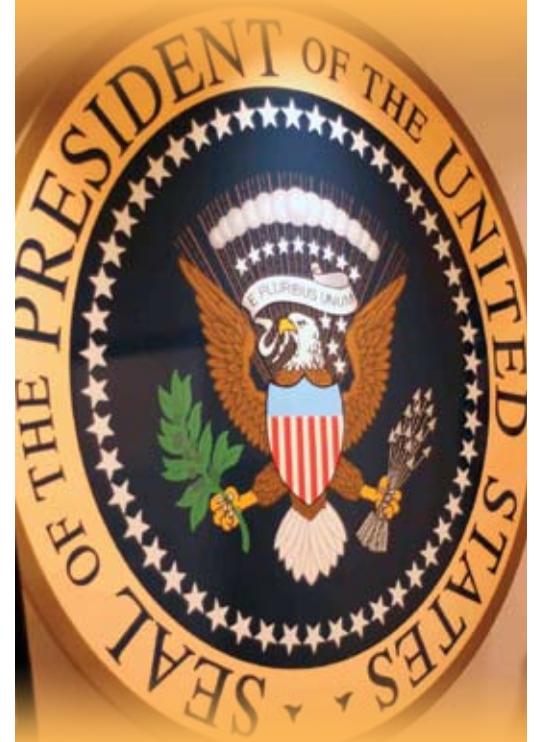
ing the well-being of a President you like or seeking to do good to an enemy. No! It has to do with you!

God wants us to pray for our President "that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." That is the reason! So, how should you pray? You should pray for your leaders each day in light of God's priorities for you. We should surely pray for their protection, both because it is right and because our own peace is tied to it. But we are not to merely pray that each leader will have a nice day! We are to pray that right will prevail and wrong will not.

Now, let's be honest in acknowledging one obvious prayer that would affect each of us. If the "all men" for whom we are to pray includes "kings, and ... all that are in authority," then who do you suppose would be included in the "all men" whom "God our Saviour ... will have ... to be saved" and for whom He "gave himself a ransom"? "All men" apparently included the Gentiles as well as Jewish people because Paul was ordained to teach even the Gentiles (I Timothy 2:7). "All men" must mean even a blasphemous, persecuting, educated but ignorant chief among sinners like Saul of Tarsus, because Paul uses his own testimony in I Timothy 1:12-16 to prove that God can do what the believers of Saul's day thought impossible. Even our leaders need Christ.

Whether or not our leaders turn to God, we should. We should pray that His Truth will spread, and that nothing and no one will stop it. Under the most severe of leaders, believers of Paul's day saw the Gospel spread undeterred; and that fact should encourage us today.

Years ago, a senate chaplain was asked if he prayed often for the senators. He replied, "No, I take a look at the senators, and I pray for the country!" We may understand his sentiment, but let us not forget that when we pray for our leaders, we pray for ourselves.



Pray that right will prevail and wrong will not.





A Flood of Calls

by Evangelist Bill Rice III

“Bill, are you people okay?”

“Yes, we’re fine,” I would answer.

The question, almost word for word, had been asked by friends from Oklahoma, Colorado, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Delaware, Virginia – I might say from all over the country. Most of the time the question came via phone, some of the time by e-mail. And, of course, the question came to me because of recent flooding in Tennessee and other areas.

Mary and I were in Delaware and Pennsylvania during the time of the floods. I got most of the calls on my cell phone on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday when we were in Pennsylvania. My answer to the question was basically word for word, “Yes, we’re fine. We are in Pennsylvania!”

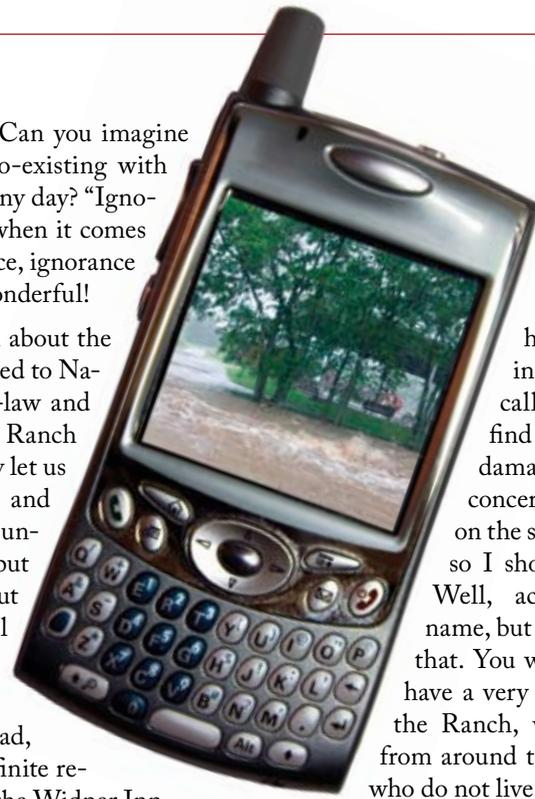
Actually, we learned about the floods from the questions, or maybe I should say, the people asking the questions.

I don’t listen to the news much, especially on weekends. In the first place, my mind is on other things; and in the second place, I like to stay

happy, upbeat, and positive. Can you imagine the words *happy* or *upbeat* co-existing with the news from any outlet on any day? “Ignorance is bliss,” they say; but when it comes to any professional news service, ignorance of their news is downright wonderful!

Okay, so I didn’t know much about the flooding. Mary and I had talked to Nathan and Wren—our son-in-law and daughter—who live on the Ranch and help in the ministry. They let us know about tornado watches and warnings on Saturday and Sunday. We knew it was raining, but we really didn’t find out about the flooding until we got all the phone questions.

The damage at the Ranch was minimal. The “back” road, which is gravel, saw some definite re-arranging; and five rooms in the Widner Inn had some water damage—two of them extensive. You may remember that last year about this time, tornadoes struck Murfreesboro. Many of you called or wrote with concern then, also. The damage in our hometown, Murfreesboro, was more significant than the harm to the Ranch. Our



dear friends there will be at work for some time fixing and building.

Let me tell you, however, a blessing in all of this. You. I called the Ranch to find out if there was damage because of my concern; but my name is on the sign at the entrance, so I should be concerned. Well, actually, it’s Dad’s name, but let’s not tell anyone that. You would expect me to have a very definite interest in the Ranch, wouldn’t you? But from around the country, friends who do not live on the Ranch or in Middle Tennessee but who love and pray for the Bill Rice Ranch, communicated with us. You called—you asked.

“Bill, are you people okay?”

I do not know that life has ever been better!

BACK AT THE RANCH...

BILL RICE RANCH

Spring Projects for Summer Camp Our staff is busily preparing for summer camp. The work includes campground maintenance, program planning, office work, and so much more. In April we had our third annual work day, where **36 local men** joined up with our staff men to **complete 12 projects**. We are so thankful for the men that came out and the hard work they put in.



Several of these projects were connected to our larger goal of having all the boys’ and girls’ cabins air-conditioned for this summer. Staff, work day volunteers, and other volunteers giving several days of time have installed air-conditioning units and duct work, poured concrete pads for units, and made other changes to the rooms to prepare for AC use efficiency. As we approach reaching this goal, we are thankful for the labor and the many donations given to help meet the need. Thank you for doing your part!

Philippines Deaf Camps



At print time, Missionary Bob Himes and Evangelist Ronnie Rice had completed one of two deaf camps in the Philippines with **13 coming to Christ**. *Look for a full report in the next issue.*

Mark Your Calendar and Don't Miss Out!

LADIES RETREAT

a Recipe for Life

October 14-16

MEN'S RETREAT

HOME IMPROVEMENT

NOVEMBER 5-6

CONFERENCE on

Marriage & the Home



December 2-4

Fall Events

Helping Local Churches for Over 50 Years!

THE RANCH IS PEOPLE



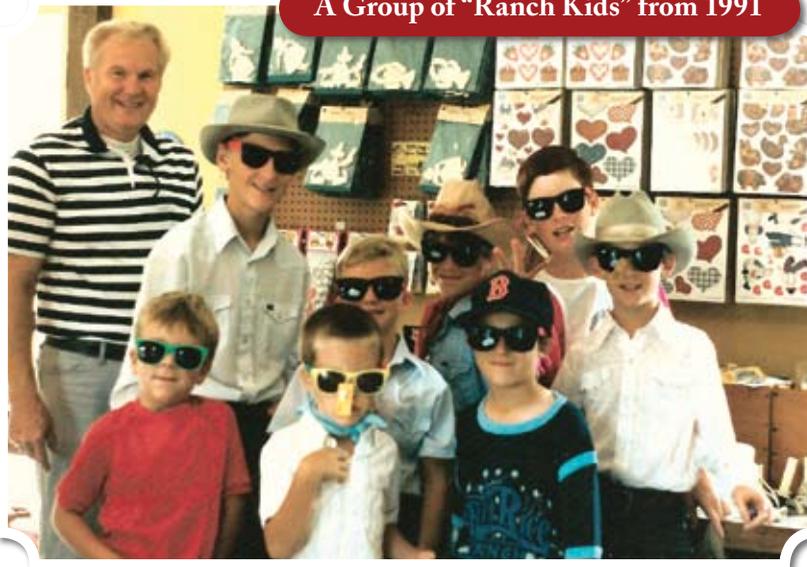
Growing Up at the Ranch by Vince Stover

"It would be so neat to grow up at a place like the Bill Rice Ranch!" That is what many people have said to me when they have heard that I was born and raised here at the Ranch. And my response is, "Yes, it was!"

I have spent all twenty-six years of my life here at the Ranch, and I would not trade it for anything. As a child there could be nothing better—1,300 acres to play on, including mountains, caves, open fields, and basketball courts. We kids spent hours running all over creation. Of course, the Bill Rice Ranch is more than a piece of property. I was able to travel all around America with my family as we helped in revival crusade meetings. I was able to see more places before I was ten than many get to see in a lifetime.

As I got older, more opportunities came. I began by washing dishes in the kitchen and soon began working with the horses. It seems as though every young boy that grows up at the

Ranch dreams of one day becoming a Bill Rice Ranch Cowboy! I too had that dream and to this day still get to fulfill that dream by helping with trail rides during our retreats.



I find it funny to look back and see how great I had it growing up, and it is fun to watch the children who are here at the Ranch now. We have

thirty-one staff children at the Ranch right now, twenty-six of whom are third grade or younger. Most days you can see them running around playing as cowboys, shooting anyone who dares to walk by their houses. As I see those kids, as well as my own son, running wild around the Ranch, it makes me realize how great it really is to grow up at the Bill Rice Ranch.

Nathan Reeves, the administrator of Bill Rice Christian Academy, has three sons. I asked his five-year-old what he liked best about living at the Bill Rice Ranch. He said, "I like watching the tractor."

Charlie and Breanna Cowart's father, Don, does grounds and maintenance here at the Ranch. I asked them the same question, to which Charlie replied, "I like the retreats and swimming." Breanna said she likes Cowboy Town.

We "Ranch kids" all have different things we like; but without a doubt, the greatest thing about living at the Ranch is the summertime. At the end of every summer, I would begin looking forward to the next. As a child I met friends from all over the country, and I would get to see them every summer. I got to see deaf services, funspiration games, youth week skits, music competitions, rodeo after rodeo after rodeo, and I could not get enough!

Now I am able to be involved in many of those things, and I cherish the fact that I was able to grow up here at the Bill Rice Ranch.

Very soon, approximately **100 summer staff members** will arrive at the Ranch to volunteer their time as counselors, operational staff, and Summer CORE workers. Every one will come trusting God to provide their needs in response to their giving the summer to the Lord. **The Ranch is also trusting the Lord to provide** what we will give them as a weekly volunteer allowance to take care of minor expenses they have while here. We give out volunteer allowances weekly beginning **June 12**, before the first week of camp.

Would you pray about entering into this **FAITH PROJECT** with us? Whether you have a little or a lot that you can share, your gift will be greatly appreciated and reap eternal dividends. You might consider one of these FAITH PROJECT levels:

FAITH PROJECT Level	Gift Amount	Provides for	Number of Gifts Needed Per level
Level 1	\$50 gift	one counselor for one week	585 <small>(65 counselors x 9 weeks each)</small>
Level 2	\$135 gift	one CORE position for the summer	14
Level 3	\$270 gift	one operational staff member for the summer	20
Level 4	\$450 gift	one counselor for the summer	65



Everyone sending a **gift marked "FAITH PROJECT"** will receive a **personal note from a summer staff member** you are supporting, sharing how God has used them and worked in their lives this summer.

Needs at the Ranch

- Metal Chop Saw** **PROVIDED THANK YOU!**
- Jack Hammer** (Electric or Air Compressor)
- Rock Drill**
- Leather Sewing Machine** **PROVIDED THANK YOU!**
- Small Sized Self-propelled Road Grader** (for upkeep of road at West Branch)
- Digital SLR camera & external flash**

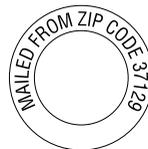
If you have a lead on any of these items or you would like to make a donation of one of these items to the Ranch, please contact Dale Stover, 615-893-2767, ext. 105 or dstover@billriceranch.org



To fill the need of on-site help at West Branch, friends of the Ranch are attempting to sell their home in the rolling hills of Northwest Tennessee and relocate to Arizona. For more information on their **37-acre horse property** with home, outbuildings, wooded trails, pasture, orchard, and stocked pond, please contact Troy Carlson at (928) 635-2097 or westbranch@billriceranch.org.



Bill Rice Ranch, Inc.
627 Bill Rice Ranch Road
Murfreesboro, TN 37128-4555



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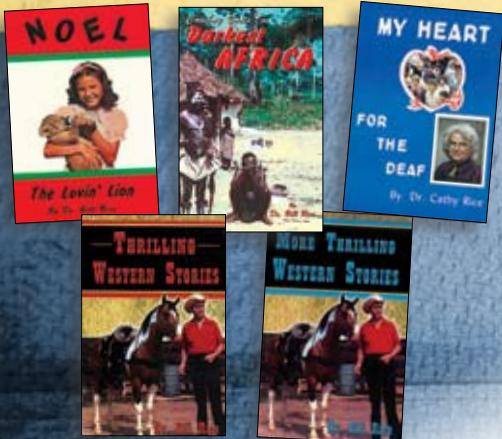
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Bill Rice Ranch PUBLICATIONS

Summer Reading Special

FIVE CLASSIC BOOKS FOR \$25!

For the young or the young at heart, some light reading for a lazy day with some great life lessons along the way. Get all five books for only \$25! (Books may also be purchased separately.)



NOTE: Price DOES NOT include shipping and handling.

For orders, call **1-800-253-RICE, ext.117**. Ask for the "Summer Reading Special." Or visit www.billriceranch.org.



Bring your Family and Come see us *This Summer!*

Summer 2010

- June 13-18** JuFULL I (Ranch Evangelists)
YoFULL (Carlson, Schettler)
Deaf Week I (R. Rice, Snare)
- June 27-July 2** Junior II (Ranch Evangelists)
Youth II (Miller, Cook)
Deaf Week II (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 4-8** Junior III (Ranch Evangelists)
FuFULL Week I (Flanders, Jones)
- July 11-16** JuFULL IV (Ranch Evangelists)
YoFULL III (Thompson, Redlin)
Deaf Week III (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 18-23** Junior V (Ranch Evangelists)
Youth IV (Downs, Goetsch)
Deaf Week IV (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 25-30** Junior VI (Ranch Evangelists)
Youth V (Coyle, Reilly)
Deaf Week V (R. Rice, Snare)
- August 1-5** Deaf Adult Conference
Sign Language School
Family Week II
(Jaspers)



20th annual
Independence Day
RETREAT
Monday, July 5

SWIMMING • TRAIL RIDES • BARBECUE
A REUNION FOR OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
SPECIAL PATRIOTIC MUSIC • PREACHING
SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS

← Still time to plan your
summer vacation!

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